Contra Costa County

Office of Assessor

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GUS S. KRAMER, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ASSESSOR ISSUES IMPORTANT WARNING TO TAXPAYERS

Dear Contra Costa County Property Owner,

Beware of solicitors offering to lower your property taxes *this year* because of COVID-19. The current assessed value for your property was determined on lien date, January 1, 2020.

Although COVID-19 has severely impacted our daily lives and affected our economy, Proposition 13 which was passed by the voters in 1978, requires that Assessors use January 1, of each year to determine a property's value for property tax purposes.

Because the COVID-19 pandemic and the countywide Shelter in Place started in March of this year, any property tax adjustments related to a downturn in the economy will be applied on next year's tax bills. For example, the tax bill you will receive in September 2021, will be for the year 2020.

The Contra Costa County Assessor's Office will *proactively* review all assessments as of January 1, 2021, and we will make every effort to research and determine if your property value has been impacted by COVID-19. We do this for <u>FREE</u> so please beware of any company that offers this service for a fee.

If you have any questions, please call our Public Service Division at 925 313-7400 or go to our website at www.contracosta.ca.gov/Assessor.

Sincerely,

GUS S. KRAMER County Assessor